

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication
☒ Application
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New
☐ Continuation
☐ Revision

* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

* Other (Specify):

* 3. Date Received:

02/13/2018

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name:

Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, Inc.

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

Not responsive as per agreement with requester

* c. Organizational DUNS:

1823632750000

d. Address:

* Street1:

1171 W. Target Range Rd.

Street2:

* City:

Nogales

County/Parish:

Santa Cruz

* State:

AZ: Arizona

Province:

* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

* Zip / Postal Code:

85621-2415

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Division Name:

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Ms.

* First Name:

Gail

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Emrick

Suffix:

Title:

Executive Director

Organizational Affiliation:

* Telephone Number:

520 287 4722

Fax Number:

520 287 4349

* Email:

gemrick@seahec.org

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

M: Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS Status (Other than Institution of Higher Education)

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

66.306

CFDA Title:

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement Program

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

EPA-OP-OEJ-18-01

* Title:

Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving (EJCPS) Cooperative Agreement

13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

SEAHEC -Winchester Heights Community Clean Water Project:
"Proyecto Agua Limpia"

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424**16. Congressional Districts Of:**

* a. Applicant

3

* b. Program/Project

2

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

09/01/2018

* b. End Date:

08/31/2019

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	118,685.00
* b. Applicant	0.00
* c. State	0.00
* d. Local	0.00
* e. Other	0.00
* f. Program Income	0.00
* g. TOTAL	118,685.00

*** 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on☐ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.☒ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.*** 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ ** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Gail

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Emrick

Suffix:

* Title:

Executive Director

* Telephone Number:

520 287 4722

Fax Number:

520 287 4349

* Email:

gemrick@seahec.org

* Signature of Authorized Representative:

Latysa Weime

* Date Signed:

02/13/2018

Project Narrative

1.0 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

a. Project Summary – one-page summary

- **Project Title:** SEAHEC -Winchester Heights Community Clean Water Project:
“*Proyecto Agua Limpia*”
- **Project Location:** Winchester Heights, Cochise County Arizona, 85643
- **Rural Area?** YES **New EJGPS Recipient?** YES
- **Applicant Information:** Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, Inc. (SEAHEC)
1171 W. Target Range Rd., Nogales, Az. 85621 Phone: 520-287-4722 fax: 520 287-4349
Executive Director: Gail Emrick gemrick@seahec.org
- **Organization Description** SEAHEC's mission is to improve the recruitment, placement & retention of culturally competent health professionals in rural & underserved communities of southeast Arizona. Our advocacy efforts include outreach and education on health needs in our rural, border and tribal communities. SEAHEC uses proven strategies to increase the number of youth who pursue health careers. We provide rural training opportunities for health professions students, placement support for public health, nursing, medical and dental students and support first responders and healthcare providers in retaining a high quality healthcare workforce through continuing education and continuing medical education.
- **Project Period Dates:** Sept 1, 2018 - Aug 29 2020
- **Environmental Statutes:** **Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3).**
- **Project Type** Training, public education, workforce development for occupations relating to the public health aspects of providing safe drinking water.
- **List of project partners:** Winchester Heights Residents (community); University of Arizona MEZCOPH (academic); Cochise Health and Social Services (CHSS) (government); Chiricahua Community Health Centers (CCHC) (health care industry)
- **Project Abstract: main objective, activities, outputs/outcomes**
Initiated in 2009, SEAHEC’s Healthy Farms/ Healthy Communities program utilizes partnerships with academia, government and the health care industry to provide training opportunities for health professions students and community health workers (CHWs) to improve health services offered to farmworkers and their families in rural southeast Arizona. The proposed project focuses on the colonia of Winchester Heights, Cochise County, an isolated, unincorporated community whose residents have worked with SEAHEC to acquire basic public health and development infrastructure. **The main objective of *Proyecto Agua Limpia* is to improve community capacity building through: 1. Promoting sustainability of a newly-established community center and 2. Addressing drinking water quality issues.**
Project activities include:
 - Train health professions students to implement programs to address safe drinking water.
 - Selection & Training of CHWs
 - Establishment of a Community Action Committee
 - Development of a Community Action Plan to maintain the newly established community center and address community identified environmental health problems
 - Implementation of water remediation activities including installation of water filters, application of chlorine and/or addressing faulty domestic pipelines, among other issues
 - Provide organizational capacity building education/support to residents, ensuring

sustainability of their new community center.

Anticipated outputs and outcomes include:

- Improved drinking water quality through water remediation activities and training; and
- Increased community capacity to address environmental health issues through development of local leadership, CHWs being trained, and the Community Action committees developed. The community will be organized and prepared to maintain its newly established community center and organize to address other priority public health concerns.

• **QAPP: YES**

b. Environmental & Public Health information of the Community

Local and public health issues to be addressed

The proposed project is part of SEAHEC's "Healthy Farms/Healthy Communities Initiative," a larger effort led by SEAHEC to address long standing health risks in underserved rural communities of southeast Arizona. These risks are caused or exacerbated by lack of rural infrastructure to support potable water systems, decent housing, paved roads, street lights and other basic infrastructure available in urban or wealthy suburban areas. Barriers to acquiring vital public health infrastructure include: Rural and linguistic isolation, poverty, low educational attainment, lack of economic opportunities, as well as the lack of a public organizational structure to provide leadership and planning support. Statistical invisibility of unincorporated rural communities with small populations (under 5,000) limits their eligibility for federal infrastructure funding and their capacity to acquire and manage resources.

Proyecto Agua Limpia project builds on previous work we have accomplished in collaboration with this community and other stakeholders. In 2017, our coalition helped the *colonia* of Winchester Heights build a community center (under construction) and conduct a Community Environmental Health Assessment, during which residents identified environmental health risks and priorities for addressing those risks. This project will focus on community priority 1. Maintenance and Sustainability of the Community Center & 2. Potable Water Quality (Safe Drinking Water).

Local environmental/public health results sought

Short term environmental health results include: Improved quality of potable water supply in Winchester Heights, Arizona. Long term results expected include: Improved rural community capacity to identify and prioritize needs, influence decision making and manage resources including basic public health infrastructure.

By addressing the lack of culturally competent health care providers available to underserved rural communities through provision of training opportunities for public health students and CHWs, this project will specifically focus on improving public health workforce capacity to implement programs designed to improve rural potable water supplies.

Description of underserved community affected

The *Colonia* of Winchester Heights is a rural community of approximately 400 residents, (*source, Cochise County Board of Supervisors, 2011.*) the majority of whom are farmworkers. In May 2011, the Cochise County Board of Supervisors voted to designate this community a *colonia* (defined below), to provide the residents with a minimum of political leverage in addressing the many health concerns that exist due to poverty, lack of infrastructure, and the fact that the community, without such designation, is virtually invisible to the US Census system.

A *colonia* is an unincorporated community within 150 miles of the US/Mexico border lacking basic infrastructure, such as systems for clean drinking water, paved roads, street

lighting, access to health and emergency services. Winchester Heights is one of a dozen communities in Cochise County classified as a "colonia."

To support the resolution, the Board of Supervisors conducted a survey of the community, mapped the area and provided a written summary of the survey: *"More than 75 percent of the housing is substandard or in poor condition...80 to 90 percent of pre-1976 mobile homes. There have been long standing issues with housing, sanitation, and infrastructure in this area."*

According to Cochise County Health and Social Services, the county's health department, *"The private water system remains questionable in terms of water quality and compliance. The roads are primitive and substandard...."* (Source: Resolution 1-26 Designating the Bowie, San Simon, Winchester Heights, Lower Huachuca City, and Fry Townsite Areas as Colonias within Cochise County, Arizona. Documentation provided by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors Lisa Marra, Communications & Community Relations Administrator, 1415 Melody Lane, Building G., Bisbee, AZ 85603, Ph: (520) 432-9200)

Location/Identification: Winchester Heights lies at the northern boundary of Census Tract 2.01 on the northern border of Cochise County, Arizona. It occupies an area of 6,987,091.43 ft² and is approximately two miles in circumference. It contains 6 east/west bound dirt roads at the end of the Winchester Easement. The Colonia's boundaries are Corral Rd, on the north, N. Schell Dr. on the east, Bonny Dr. on the south, and Fort Grant Road on the West. The community can be located with the EJSCREEN tool using the following coordinates: Northwest Corner 32.413101, -109.926904/ Southeast Corner 32.405757, -109.918478 (Source: Google Maps, EJSCREEN)

Income: According to the Bureau of Labor Occupational Statistics, the mean annual salary for full time farmworkers is approximately \$20,000. This is well below 80% of the median family income of \$51,914. A family of three, at this income level, would be at or below the federal poverty line. The majority of community residents are farmworkers.

Disproportionate impact of environmental health risks

Americans who live in urban and wealthy suburban areas take for granted infrastructure that supports their health and safety. Residents of American urban and suburban communities have come to expect, as their right, safe drinking water, paved and lighted streets, and access to basic health and emergency services. At the same time, they live in densely populated areas, usually incorporated with a local government that can be easily identified using tools like EJSCREEN. This gives them an advantage over unincorporated rural communities in competing for resources to improve basic infrastructure. Unfortunately, many of Arizona's rural residents, including those in Winchester Heights, live in unincorporated subdivisions with little or no zoning regulation, which has allowed entire communities to develop without basic public health infrastructure. Close to a million people in communities across the US/Mexico border region live in communities identified as *colonias*. Until now, there has been no mechanism to remedy this situation, since funding for infrastructure projects usually goes to more easily identified, incorporated communities with population densities that show up on US Census records.

Community benefit from intended local results

By working with rural residents and local stakeholders, SEAHEC is creating a model that can help unincorporated rural communities develop leverage needed to upgrade their public health infrastructure. Direct benefits to the community as a result of our project include:

- Improvements to crumbling or non-existent public health infrastructure for potable water.
- Establishment of organizational infrastructure for leadership, economic leverage and resource management.
- Increased connections for isolated rural residents to a wider group of stakeholders who can,

and have, provided expertise, resources and funding for future development.

c. Organization's Historical and Sustained Connection to Community
History of SEAHEC's involvement with the Winchester Heights Community, duration and circumstances.

In 2008, SEAHEC conducted a community health assessment in Cochise County to evaluate public health challenges and barriers to accessing health and other services for local farmworkers. The findings highlighted egregious disparities in quality of life for farmworkers in Cochise County, compared to residents of less geographically and culturally isolated communities. (Source: Christina Trimmer 2009) Based on these findings, SEAHEC founded the Healthy Farms/Campos Saludables Initiative, with the following objectives:

- Increase farmworker/farmworker families access to health information and services by recruiting and training farmworkers become CHWs
- Increase Winchester Heights residents' utilization of services
- Utilize CHWs to inform providers about community health needs.
- Establish a CHW driven model for community capacity building enabling underserved rural communities to identify and address their own public health issues.
- Provide community based training opportunities for health professions students to increase the number of trained, culturally competent health professionals in the local workforce.

In 2010, SEAHEC began working in collaboration with Chiricahua Community Health Centers Inc. (CCHI), a Federally Qualified Health Center to promote farmworker health in Cochise County by addressing both access to health services and workplace health, safety, and sanitation conditions. Healthy Farms/Campos Saludables works with both farmers and farmworkers to provide health education and preventive services, and linking them to clinical care and community resources. In 2013, SEAHEC launched Cochise County's first farmworker based community health worker team in the *colonia* of Winchester Heights. Using a train the trainer (TTT) model, in partnership with University of Arizona College of Public Health, SEAHEC contracted the President of Arizona's Community Health Worker Association, AzCHOW, who herself was a farmworker, to provide initial training to the cadre of CHWs on the roles and responsibilities of community health workers and initial training modules. Since that time, SEAHEC health professions student interns, including public health, medicine and nursing students from the University of Arizona have worked with Healthy Farms CHWs to tailor our curriculum and advocacy activities to the farmworker community of Winchester Heights.

Successes include:

- Increased utilization of healthcare and other services /Increased knowledge of health information
- Establishment of referral system to the Chiricahua Community Health Centers mobile clinic
- Installation of bus shelters for the school children in 2014
- Community empowerment through: a CHW/ Community-organized health fair, in 2015, attended by 60+ community members; utilized UA public health students to help CHWs coordinate event;
- A Community environmental health assessment (CEHA) using a community based participatory CBPA approach to research, enabling residents to collect, and analyze data and educate themselves about health risks in their neighborhood. It also enabled residents to collaborate in understanding the source of health issues and define priorities for addressing their health problems. Health priorities identified in the CEHA included: 1. Water quality; 2.

Neighborhood security; 3. Air quality, 4. Sanitation, and 5. Work environment. In addition, we learned from residents that a major barrier to conducting community health education and advocacy projects was the lack of public space for assembly. We also learned from community stakeholders who were charged with delivering health and social services, that the lack of public meeting space in Winchester Heights was a barrier to service delivery. In 2017, at the request of residents, SEAHEC secured funding to build a local community center. Construction is scheduled for completion in spring 2018. SEAHEC and partners also acquired funding to expand the CEHA to further investigate drinking water quality issues and help the community develop a water quality improvement strategic plan, to be published in fall, 2018.

How SEAHEC works with community residents and stakeholders to address local environmental public health issues

SEAHEC employs two strategies to ensure community participation in planning, decision-making and program development.

1. CHW-driven Training: SEAHEC recruits community members to engage in training which enables them to provide health education, advocacy, information and referrals to services to their peers. Included in our CHW training curriculum is leadership training. SEAHEC also works with our CHW team to identify potential community leaders and recruit them for training.
2. Community Based Participatory Approach to community research, problem solving & program design: SEAHEC utilizes expertise from the University of Arizona through our Health Professions Student Training Opportunities Program. SEAHEC interns work with community residents to collaborate on each step of the development process. In developing our Healthy Farms CHW training curriculum, SEAHEC and community members gathered data on the perceived health needs of the community. We developed training materials based on that data, and tested the materials by incorporating modules for community feedback. This enabled us to develop an evolving curriculum tailored to specific community need. To learn more about community needs, we have engaged residents in collecting and analyzing local data to share with the community, and how to prioritize issues and develop consensus around community health issues. The recently conducted CEHA, produced a list Environmental Health issues, prioritized by residents. This project will implement two of the top recommendations from that list:
 - ❖ Address issues with the quality & safety of local drinking water
 - ❖ Provide training and support for developing an organizational structure (Community Action Committee) to mobilize residents to address community identified health priorities, oversee use of the community center and, and identify, acquire and manage resources needed for community health projects and maintenance of the facility.

How community members are involved in project planning and decision making when working with SEAHEC.

Utilization of community health workers

According to the American Public Health Association (APHA,) "a community health worker (CHW) is a frontline public health worker who is a trusted member of and/or has an unusually close understanding of the community served. This trusting relationship enables the worker to serve as a liaison... between health/social services and the community to facilitate access to services and improve the quality and cultural competence of service delivery..." (Source: APHA) By placing CHWs at the center of our strategy for improving public health outcomes we ensure that our efforts are centered on the community and its needs as expressed by residents. The steps we

take to include community members in every stage of planning and implementation include:

- Training our CHW team about: developing consensus & prioritizing issues, and the power of community data, how to collect, analyze, interpret and share it with the community; How to solicit, tabulate and share community feedback about data and tools.
- We collaborate with community members to develop & test data collection tools.
- At each stage of a project, we hold community-wide meetings to share information and solicit feedback.

Community based participatory approach (CBPA) to research and project planning.

Partnering with the University of Arizona's College of Public Health enables us to utilize expertise in using CBPA for research and project planning. This places the process of needs discovery firmly in the hands of community, as they identify and prioritize needs, and develop strategic plans to address those needs. Inherent in this process is training community members to take ownership of their data, issues and priorities, and providing the tools needed to accomplish common goals. When a project is completed, the community has collectively improved their capacity to identify issues and address them on their own terms.

How SEAHEC will sustain ongoing relationships with the community & stakeholders:

As previously described, SEAHEC has an on-going established relationship with the Winchester Heights community, initiating in 2008 and continuing today. With almost a decade of collaboration, the community of Winchester Heights is a field placement site for SEAHEC's health professions students, allowing medical, nursing, public health and other aspiring health profession students to engage with a rural, farmworker community. This enriches professional training, increases cultural competency and improves understanding of the value of working in a rural area. At the same time, Winchester Heights residents benefit from this relationship, receiving health education and increased access to quality health services, and providing a social network for advocacy, visibility and long term friendships, something not often talked about in technical literature, but of immeasurable benefit for farmworker communities that are often ostracized or overlooked by larger society. SEAHEC and Winchester Heights residents have jointly developed a strategic plan, based on the CEHA, which provides a framework of future work together. As well, the Winchester Heights Community Stakeholders group, are agencies which meet to provide ongoing health-related support to the community, and they include the partners in this proposed project. Details of this sustained relationship is described in section on Partner Agencies.

d. *EJCPS Model - Demonstrate the utility of the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving Model (Section I.B).*

Given SEAHEC's historical relationship with the Winchester Heights community and partners agencies, four of the elements of the EJCPS model have already begun and or have been accomplished for the proposed project. Those completed include Issue identification, community vision & Goal setting; those underway and which will be an ongoing focus for the life of this project (LOP) include: Community capacity building and leadership development; and Consensus building & Dispute resolution; Multi-stakeholder partnership; & Constructive Engagement by Relevant Stakeholders. Sound Management is always a part of SEAHEC's project implementation strategies. We include evaluation as part of all project design.

1. Issue Identification, Community Vision & Goal Setting - completed

The Healthy Farms process of issue identification, developing a community vision and strategic goal setting is incremental and ongoing. Engaging community is at the heart of our strategy. As discussed above, SEAHEC utilizes CHWs and a CBP approach to project development and

community capacity building. Through our work with Winchester Heights, we have developed a CHW-driven model for helping underserved communities identify issues and prioritize goals so they can collaborate on addressing those issues on their own terms. The priorities of this project are based on the community's desire to implement key elements of a previously conducted environmental health assessment. Winchester Heights residents have already identified drinking water quality and their capacity to manage their new community center as top priorities.

2. Community Capacity Building & Leadership Development – ongoing LOP

As discussed above, CHW-driven initiatives are at the heart of our strategy. In this project, we propose an expansion of our Healthy Farms CHW training model that will enable the community to establish a core leadership team who will, in turn, recruit, train and lead a community action committee in implementing the community's health priorities.

3. Consensus Building and Dispute Resolution – ongoing LOP

SEAHEC has a long history of successful collaboration with diverse community partners, including those in *Proyecto Agua Limpia*. Our success is rooted in core values of humility, mutual respect, appreciation of diversity and building consensus. We utilize participatory processes that promote shared understanding of individual and collective needs, through cooperation. Inclusion: As a partner in this project, we will assure that diverse community members' voices, including women and men, youth and elderly, are at the forefront of any consensus building and dispute resolution. Participation: Through setting ground rules for consensus building, each community member who participates will have space and opportunity to contribute his or her perspective, ideas and opinions as well as strengths to the process.

4. Constructive Engagement by Relevant Stakeholders – established/ongoing

Each of our partners has specific expertise and a vested interest in the success of our project and has already invested significant resources and expertise in helping SEAHEC support Winchester Heights community address long standing health disparities. For Chiricahua Community Health Centers, who have worked with our CHWs to establish a referral system, their key stake is their outreach and service delivery to Cochise County's most isolated rural residents. For Cochise Health & Social Services, a key stake is access to a community meeting space for health education and outreach, including immunizations, WIC and other health services. The University of Arizona's vested interest is to place students in enriching, appropriate training environments, which impacts the cultural competence of our health care work force. The Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona, has a vested interest in improving public health outcomes in Cochise County in general and have invested financially in the Winchester Heights Community Center, having provided most of the funding for the facility's construction. In addition, their expertise in community networking and nonprofit management will bolster SEAHEC's in our effort to mentor the Winchester Heights Community Center's organizational sustainability.

5. Sound management & Implementation - ongoing

All programs and projects implemented by SEAHEC follow sound management and implementation practices. With project oversight by Executive director with more than 30 years' experience in project management, *Proyecto Agua Limpia* will be held to the same high standards that all SEAHEC programs and projects are held to (see Organizational Capacity).

6. Evaluation, Lessons Learned & Replication of Best Practices – Mth 20 - onward

Evaluation will be based on the logic model, activities, outputs and outcomes and hence is an essential part to any project design (sound implementation). Lessons learned and replication of best practices will be extrapolated and applied at the conclusion of the project. It is one of our greatest hopes that this project will serve as a model for replicability for other rural, resource-

challenged colonias along the US Mexico border that can benefit from our successful partnership. We hope that EPA can use our model and share our lessons for future work!

e. *Project Linkages - How Project Supports EPA Draft Strategic Plan*
This project directly supports two of the EPA strategic plan elements.

1. Priority 2. Ensuring clean and safe water by improving water infrastructure and supporting drinking water, and economic and subsistence activities.

Through our recently conducted CEHA, Winchester Heights residents have identified environmental health risks associated with quality of their drinking water. Currently, we are assessing community member's risk perception of their water as well as quantifying bacteria and heavy metal concentrations in household drinking waters by using a community-based participatory approach (CBPA). This method involves training CHWs to collect, analyze, and interpret bacteria and trace metal results from drinking water sources, and then present the results back to the community. CBPA empowers communities to organize and prepare for future issues of concern, advocate for change, and influence decision-making. Community members will work with SEAHEC interns to develop a strategic plan for addressing water quality issues that are identified. *Proyecto Agua Limpia* will focus on remediation of water quality, which may include installing water filters, chlorination, and/or repairs to corroded plumbing. If sewage contamination is suspected, *Proyecto Agua Limpia* may also involve further, more targeted sampling. By addressing community-identified water issues, we can work with residents to upgrade old and disintegrating water systems with the goal of improving their drinking water. Residents will also gain information about their public water supply, its impact on public health, how to protect it from contaminants and importantly, the community will gain transferrable skills they can use to address other health issues.

Subsequent reports to the EPA will provide data and information on our methodology that can assist the EPA in implementing its strategic plan in other communities.

2. Priority 5. Increasing transparency, public participation & collaboration with communities.

Our model of CHW-driven advocacy work, combined with a CBPA for data collection and use, promotes increased public participation in decision making around environmental health issues. Through our utilization of CHWs to implement a CBPA approach, environmental health education and rural capacity building, we improve transparency in the process of allocating resources for public health infrastructure by helping rural residents develop the capacity to advocate for themselves and their communities. The resultant priorities identified in this project – focusing on community center maintenance and sustainability AND water quality, illustrate the SEAHEC commitment to EPA strategies of public participation and community collaboration.

How Project Relates to qualified environmental statute(s) identified in Project Summary

This project is directly related to the **Safe Drinking Water Act, Section 1442(b)(3)**: The focus of our project is to resolve drinking water quality issues in a rural, underserved community while helping that community improve their capacity to identify, prioritize and address environmental health risks. We do this through training and supporting CHWs to provide leadership in design and implementation of environmental health projects based on community priorities. At the same time, student interns gain experience that improves their ability to carry out programs to address public health issues. This project will provide our workforce with increased capability to carry out programs related to the public health aspects of providing safe drinking water.

f. *Partners and Collaboration*

SEAHEC has a 30-year history of developing partnerships to strengthen southern Arizona's

health workforce and address disparities in health care, education and access to services in our rural communities. Project partners were chosen for their expertise in different areas and their stake in improving both the health care workforce, in general, and helping the Winchester Heights community acquire and learn to manage health sustaining public infrastructure. Our relationships are ongoing and will be sustained in the future as our collaborations are larger than this project and positively impact the achievement of our missions and goals.

Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, SEAHEC, is the lead agency on *Proyecto Agua Limpia*. Our main role is to oversee all aspects of the project – from successful recruiting and training of Project Coordinator, directing activities, responsible for submitting timely and accurate technical and financial reports, and assuring smooth communication between partners. (See organizational capacity section of this document for more information on SEAHEC.)

The University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (academia) is one of SEAHEC's key workforce training partners. Our Healthy Farms Program is one of several health professions student training opportunities that we jointly offer. For this project, MEZCOPH will place two public health interns with SEAHEC to provide curriculum development support to the program as well as training and support to CHWs and CAC (community) leaders. The University will provide a bilingual project coordinator to work in the field with the interns and community residents to provide day to day activity coordination as well as scientific and evaluation support. They have a vested interest in collaborative training of the rural public health workforce in a culturally competent manner.

Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc. (CCHCI) (FQHC, industry) has an outreach mission to the Winchester Heights community. Through this project, they will gain access to /have vested interest in a public area where they can park their mobile clinic. In addition, they have increased their capacity to serve Winchester Heights residents through work with our CHWs, implementing a referral-for-services system. Through working with Healthy Farms CHWS, CCHCI has a vector through which to disseminate health information and coordinate clinic visits. This, in turn, increases the effectiveness of our CHW team by providing them with expertise, information and services to refer clients to.

Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona (nonprofit sector)

As an ongoing partner with SEAHEC on many endeavors to build a well-trained and culturally competent health workforce for southern Arizona, The Legacy Foundation has a vested interest in working to ensure funds invested on the community center are well-spent. This partnership offers opportunity to enhance maintenance and sustainability of the Center (and their investment). They are committed to providing technical support for organizational capacity building, and longer term in establishing local ownership (possibly 501(c)3 status) for ongoing safe use and maintenance of the newly established community center and other endeavors.

Cochise Health and Social Services (government)

CHSS is the Cochise County Health Department, and is an ongoing partner with SEAHEC in supporting positive health outcomes and health care workforce development in Cochise County. CHSS has committed to providing health resources and information to support the work and training of the CHW team, and to promote the safe use and maintenance of the newly established community center. They have a vested interest in collaborating to improve health and health services to rural, isolated communities including Winchester Heights.

2.0 PROJECT ACTIVITIES / MILESTONE SCHEDULE / DETAILED BUDGET NARRATIVE

***Proyecto Agua Limpia* 's overarching goal is to improve community capacity building**

through to programmatic objectives:

1. Promote sustainability of a newly-established community center and

2. Address drinking water quality issues.

Specific project activities and associated results include:

Project Activities	Anticipated Result(s)
<u>Train 2 public health students</u> in implementing activities relating to community capacity building, leadership. Project Manager/Project Coordinator provide training on community education strategies, development of appropriate materials, and training CHWs to conduct home visits.	Rural Public health workforce developed/culturally competent
<u>Selection & Training of 4 – 8 Community Health Workers.</u> Students will train CHWs on appropriate strategies for conducting home visits, to promote community involvement in Community Action committee (CAC) community center maintenance and sustainability.	Establishment of a Community Action Committee. CAC meeting monthly.
<u>Development of a Community Action Plan</u> to maintain the newly established community center. With support from public health interns, CHWs will lead CAC in meetings to disseminate the CAC work plan, gather community feedback. CAC will provide input into specific work efforts needed for center sustainability, such as maintenance, vandalism prevention, operating guidelines and hours of use.	Winchester Heights has a community center that is sustainable, accessible to and used by all, that will unite them for education, advocacy and future health improvements.
<p><u>Monthly training of CHWs on water quality issues</u>, provided by public health interns.</p> <p>Project Coordinator and public health student interns accompany CHWs on <u>up to 50 home visits to conduct in home assessments of drinking water</u>. Analysis and remediation plans developed by student interns (oversight by PC).</p> <p><u>Implementation of water remediation activities</u> including installation of water filters, application of chlorine and/or addressing faulty domestic pipelines (as budget allows).</p>	<p>Improved drinking water quality through water remediation activities and training</p> <p>Increased community capacity to address environmental health issues through development of local leadership.</p>
Community members, CAC/CHWs present project results to community and partners.	Capacity building as community owns project data/results/future plans!

MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Activities & Milestone	Timeline (Quarter for Completion)							
	Yr. 1				Yr. 2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Project Oversight	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: Quarterly financial and programmatic progress reports								
Training of Interns Environmental Health & Community Capacity building	x				x			
Milestone: Curriculum developed Capacity building (yr. 1) E H (yr. 2)	x	x			x			
Recruitment & Training of CHWs	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: 4-8 CHWs recruited	x							
Milestone: CHWs trained / # trainings 1/mth Q 1 & 2 then bimonthly LOP		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Community Action Committees Formed								
Milestone: Monthly meetings initiate Q 2		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: CAC develops Community Action Plan Q 2		x						
Milestone: Community meetings held		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: Community-wide activities for Community Center maintenance			x	x	x	x	x	x
Community Trainings on Environmental Health								
Milestone: 4 workshops for adults		x		x		x		x
Milestone: 4 workshops for children		x	x		x		x	
Water Quality Remediation Activities					x	x	x	x
Interns/CHWs conduct home visit assessments				x	x			
Water remediation plans developed for 50-100 households					x			
Milestone: Water quality improvements (filters, education, piping) completed						x	x	x
Community Collaboration & Partnership Celebration								
Milestone: Successes/lessons learned documented. Community presentation								x

DETAILED BUDGET NARRATIVE

SEAHEC requests \$55,000 for personnel costs for the two-year project, \$27,500 per year – of which \$7,500/year to cover .15FTE Project Director and Admin/Finance (project oversight);

\$10,000/year for a UA .25FTE Project Coordinator (subcontracted by SEAHEC); and \$20,000 for MPH student interns at \$5,000 per semester x 4 semesters.

\$4,500 is requested for SEAHEC personnel associated fringe benefits.

\$6,396 is requested for travel; \$2,715 per year for 24 round trips between Tucson and Winchester Heights community; and \$966 in yr. 1 for grantee meeting (estimated airfare, lodging, per diem).

\$20,000 is requested for water remediation supplies, for an estimated 100 households, at an average cost of \$200 per household to install water filters, apply chlorine treatment and/or address interior water piping issues. \$1,750 is requested for community meeting supplies for 10 meetings per year and a community celebration at end of project.

\$33,750 is requested for community health worker/community action committee stipends at \$15 per hour, for CHWs/CACs, with an average of 25 hours per month at 20 months.

Indirect rate of 10% is a total of \$10,789.

Total project costs requested for the two-year project is \$118,685.

3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL RESULTS – OUTPUTS, OUTCOMES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES (LOGIC MODEL)

The anticipated outcomes of *Proyecto Agua Limpia* include:

Improved drinking water quality through water remediation activities and training; and Increased community capacity to address environmental health issues through development of local leadership. Community health workers will be trained. Community Action committees will be developed. The community will be organized and prepared to maintain its newly established community center and organize to address other priority public health concerns.

A detailed matrix with inputs, activities and outputs is provided in Appendix C – Logic Model.

4.0 PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

The Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) were authorized by the U.S. Congress in 1972 after a study by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education documented notable health disparities between urban centers and rural areas, and in particular, highlighted the lack of health professionals in rural communities of the U.S. Founded in 1985, the Southeast Arizona Area Health Education Center, Inc. (SEAHEC), a 501(c)3, has been dedicated to the recruitment, training and retention of culturally competent health professionals in rural and underserved communities.

Organizational Experience: Our core programs include: Future Health Leaders – which motivates high school students to pursue higher education particularly opportunities as future health professionals in rural communities; Health Professions Student Training– which provides students with training and service learning immersion in rural, border and tribal communities, enhancing cultural competency and inspiring practice in underserved Arizona; Continuing Education – which provides health professionals with appropriate and accessible high quality training enabling them continue their health practice in rural settings; and Community Initiatives – like our Winchester Heights Healthy Farms Program , working with local communities, health students and practitioners to collaboratively address and meet health and development needs.

History of Capacity Building with and for other local agencies: As a long-established rural health workforce agency, SEAHEC has worked closely with other agencies to help strengthen their capacity. Among these partnerships is our work with the Arizona Community Health Workers Association, known as AzCHOW. SEAHEC has served as fiscal agent for AzCHOW

for over 10 years and for the past several years has focused on local capacity building of AzCHOW to become its own 501(c)3. Specifically, SEAHEC and AzCHOW leadership have worked together to develop Policies and Procedures/Operating Guidelines for AzCHOW including building and strengthening diverse representation on their Board of Directors to include broader geographic and ethnic representation reflective of Arizona's diverse population. Through the HRSA-funded Arizona Community Health Workers Network, 2014, SEAHEC and partners, including the Arizona Department of Health Services, worked with AzCHOW to develop both a Strategic Plan and a Sustainability and Business Plan for the emerging nonprofit. With SEAHEC mentorship, AzCHOW is now a stand-alone non-profit with its own growing programs and funding sources. SEAHEC has also provided technical assistance to a recently established youth education organization, Border Youth Tennis Exchange, serving the communities of Nogales, Arizona and Sonora. BYTE offers at-risk youth the opportunity to participate in healthy learning environments, grounded in physical activity, but focus on the larger objectives of cross-border understanding, respect and learning. SEAHEC has worked closely with BYTE providing capacity building in areas of fiscal management, human resources development, Board development and Operational Guidelines. Since 2010, SEAHEC has been working with the Winchester Heights community initially assessing access to health care - to most recently, 2016/17 having been awarded a Community Innovation grant by the Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona. SEAHEC has accompanied community residents in addressing locally identified priorities including access to clean water, health information, and services.

Staff Experience/Qualifications of Project Manager

Project Manager: Gail Emrick, Executive Director of SEAHEC (ten years), has over 30 years' experience in public health and development, having served in leadership positions including as Regional Technical Adviser for a USDA-funded Food Security/Water & Sanitation project in Central America, managing multimillion dollar projects in 4 countries and managing diverse teams of personnel including medical, engineering and community health educators. Ms. Emrick has a close working relationship with Winchester Heights community members, CHW team, and has visited the community on a regular (bi-monthly) basis for over 5 years. Project Coordinator Rietta Wagoner, MPH, environmental health specialist, has worked closely with SEAHEC on various projects in Winchester Heights and rural southern Arizona, including a current NIH-funded water quality intervention that incorporates a CBPR approach with CHW involvement in sampling, analysis, and presentation of water quality parameters. Ms. Wagoner will coordinate all field staff, including interns and CHWs to assure day to day activities and timelines are met efficiently and effectively. Ms. Wagoner led the Community Environmental Health Assessment conducted in Winchester Heights used as the baseline for designing this proposal and helping community members prioritize their health concerns and strategies. Latysa Watson, SEAHEC Executive Assistant for Administration & Finance has 7 years' experience in sound fiscal management and record keeping. She will serve as the financial/administrative key personnel for this project.

Expenditure of Awarded Grant Funds SEAHEC follows strict procedures for assuring both programmatic and financial quality of all programs, projects and funds. We have developed a Financial Policies and Procedures Manual, which follows GAP guidelines and received approval from the HRSA-assigned review committee for grantee oversight. We perform monthly internal audits, including comparison of budget vs. actual for every award. The review to ensure that no significant variances occur, rate of expenditure is monitored and % spent of overall grant noted.

This is to assure sound expenditure rates per award/project. QuickBooks automated generated reports are utilized for review to create/generate Board and Executive Director approved reports.

5.0. PAST PERFORMANCE

Since its inception, SEAHEC has effectively managed projects and funding from a variety of governmental and non-governmental sources. Initial federal HRSA AHEC funds were provided to the University of Arizona to establish SEAHEC; subsequently these were enhanced with federal Health Education Training Center (HETC) funding from 1990 to 2004. SEAHEC has managed grants administered through the University of Arizona, including the Southern Arizona-Border Health Careers Opportunities Program, funded by the HRSA Bureau of Health Professions. State and private grants have funded partnerships with community health centers for continuing education, community health and other health-related efforts. Since 2010, SEAHEC has received 3 Office of Rural Health Policy/Rural Health Network Planning and Rural Benefits Outreach grants which have allowed us to partner with agencies that share the unique health issues and challenges of our U.S. Mexico border region (outlined in previous section). We have a recognized history of timely and adequate reporting, achieving expected outcomes, and submitting final technical and financial reports.

HRSA Rural Benefits Counseling Program (Grant No. G09RH28754)

\$74,954.00 (08/01/2015-07/31/2018)

Project Title: Casa Saludable

Purpose: To provide education, outreach and enrollment services in rural southern Arizona to improve health and wellbeing through increased access to and utilization of health services. Strategies to achieve goal included: “In reach” or training and support of existing staff so that they are better prepared to conduct education and; Use of a “promising practice” – integrated tools for Train-the-Trainer model for education on ACA, benefits counseling and accessing health services; and use of culturally competent bilingual community health workers (CHWs), to provide appropriate outreach and education. Objectives: train 4-8 CHWs per county to conduct outreach and education with anticipated reach of 20,000 people year 1; 14,000 year 2; and 8,000 in year 3.

HRSA Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant Program (Grant No. P10RH27720)

\$83,545 (May 2014 – April 2015)

Project Title: Arizona Community Health Worker Network (AzCHWN)

Purpose: To bring together the diverse agencies working to shape the future of CHWs in Arizona through the creation of a participatory network in support of CHW professional capacity that would ultimately strengthen rural health care system.

6.0 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLAN (QAPP) INFORMATION

Yes, we will need QAPP

Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Logic Model for “Proyecto Agua Limpia” **SEAHEC & Winchester Heights Environmental Health Partnership**

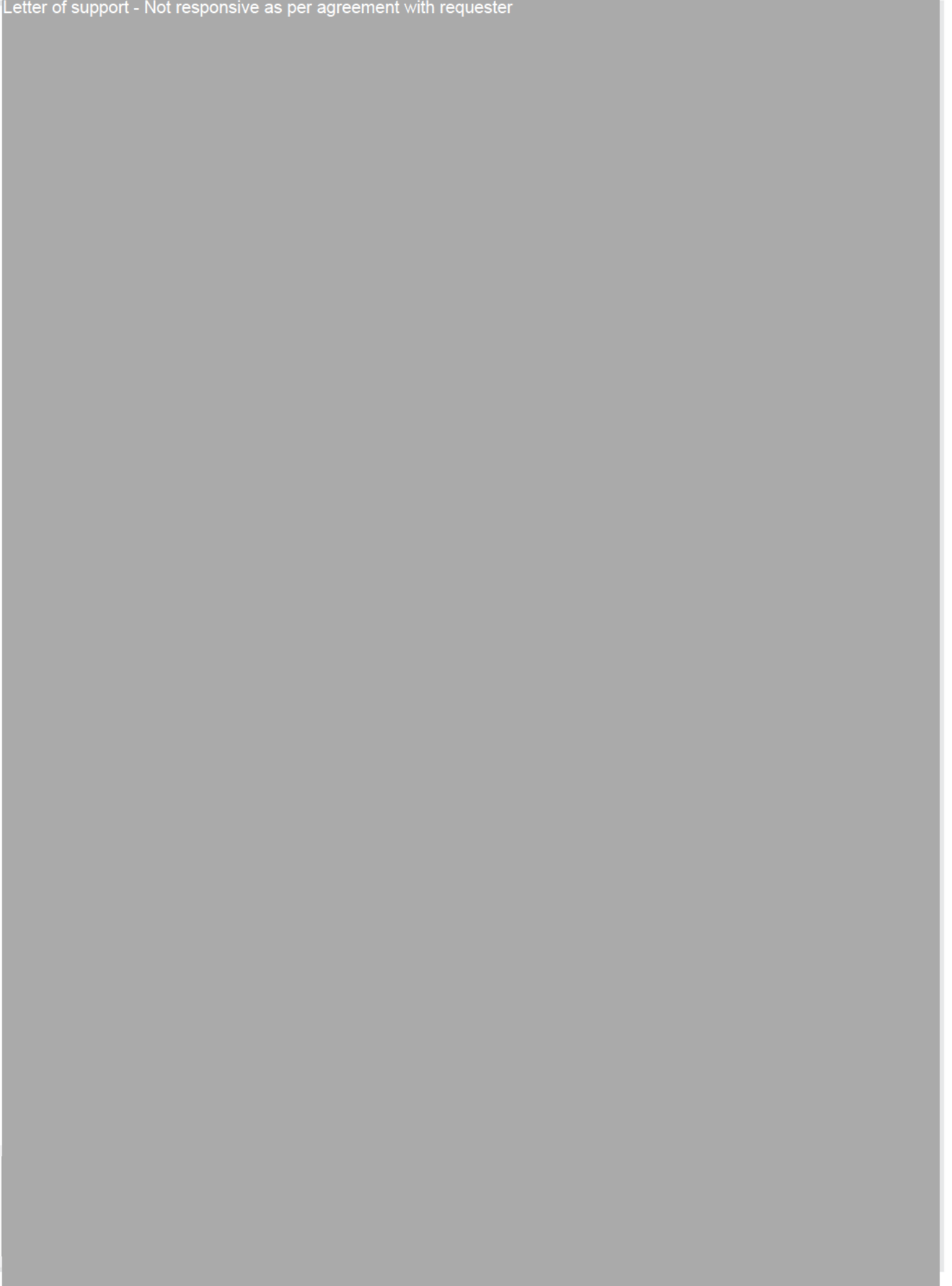
YEAR 1	COMMUNITY CAPACITY	ENHANCED	
Resource Input	Activity	Output	Outcomes
SEAHEC Exec Director/Admin assist time	Project oversight	Progress reports to EPA	Sound program management
Partner time UA (Project Coordinator and Public Health Interns)	Training of interns for community capacity building Training on environmental health/water quality issues	# trained interns	<u>Collaborating & developing Partnerships</u> Rural Public Health workforce development
Staff/Student/CHW time/travel Meeting /teaching supplies	Public health student & CHW training/support	Environmental Health curriculum materials Community Center Operating Guidelines	<u>Educating & Empowering community about EH issues; consensus building</u>
	CHW/CAC Recruitment/training Community action committees formed & meeting monthly (10/yr.) (CACs)	Recruitment list Workshop Schedule Attendance sheets Progress reports	# community members recruited/trained as CHWs (4) # residents recruited/trained as CAC members (min 2 / street or 10 total) # Workshops conducted (4/yr.)
	Develop/validate CAC plan	CAC plan report	# community meetings held Community action plan finalized
	Form/deploy CACs for: building maintenance, safety & Cleanup	CAC progress report	# Community action tasks completed.
YEAR 2	COMMUNITY CAPACITY	ENHANCED	
Resource Input	Activity	Output	Outcomes
SEAHEC Exec Director/Admin assist time	Project oversight	Progress reports to EPA	Sound program management
Staff/Student/CHW time/travel Partner time/travel Meeting /teaching supplies	Community Center Maintenance workshops developed Maintenance plan monitored Environmental health education workshops developed Water quality remediation developed (based on previous study)	<u>Educating & Empowering community about EH issues</u> # Workshops for adults (4 per yr.) # Workshops for children (4 per yr.)	<u>Collaborating & developing Partnerships</u> # participants/workshop Increase # residents participating in Capacity building / EH/ water remediation activities Strategic & Operating plan for community center developed
Staff/Student/CHW time/travel Meeting /teaching supplies	Students/CHW reflection, reporting and dissemination of lessons learned.	Progress reports & presentations	Record of successes and lessons learned Increased capacity to address environmental health issues in underserved rural communities.
Water quality/remediation & Plumbing supplies CAC work committee time	Water Quality Remediation Activities assessment planned/conducted/supplies purchased:	Water system upgrade # filters installed #domestic water systems fixed # homes w/chlorine education/or treatment	DRINKING WATER QUALITY IMPROVED #&type of improvements completed. Target: 100 homes with improvements

**Performance Measurement Plan for “Proyecto Agua Limpia”
SEAHEC & Winchester Heights Environmental Health Partnership**


Proyecto Agua Limpia Performance Measurement Plan & Timeline								
Project Goal: Build community capacity through promoting sustainability of community center & addressing drinking water quality								
Activities & Milestone	Timeline (Quarter for Completion)							
	Yr. 1				Yr. 2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Project Oversight	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: Quarterly financial and programmatic progress reports								
Training of Interns: Environmental Health & Community Capacity building	x				x			
Milestone: Curriculum developed Capacity building (yr. 1) E H (yr. 2)	x	x			x			
Recruitment & Training of CHWs	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: 4-8 CHWs recruited	x							
Milestone: CHWs trained / # trainings (5/yr) bimonthly LOP		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Community Action Committees Formed								
Milestone: Monthly meetings initiate Q 2		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: CAC develops Community Action Plan Q 2		x						
Milestone: Community meetings held		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Milestone: Community-wide activities for Community Center maintenance			x	x	x	x	x	x
Community Trainings on Environmental Health								
Milestone: 4 workshops for adults		x		x		x		x
Milestone: 4 workshops for children		x	x		x		x	
Water Quality Remediation Activities					x	x	x	x
Interns/CHWs conduct home visit assessments				x	x			
Water remediation plans developed for 50-100 households					x			
Milestone: Water quality improvements (filters, education, piping) completed						x	x	x
Community Collaboration & Partnership Celebration								
Milestone: Successes/lessons learned documented. Community presentation								x



Letter of support - Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Letter of support - Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Letter of support - Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Letter of support - Not responsive as per agreement with requester





EPA KEY CONTACTS FORM

Not responsive as per agreement with requester



EPA KEY CONTACTS FORM

Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Internal Revenue Service
District Director

Department of the Treasury

Not responsive as per agreement with requester



(over)

District Director, Dallas District

Letter 947(DO) (Rev. 4-86)

Not responsive as per agreement with requester

Other Attachment File(s)

Not responsive as per agreement with requester



Project Narrative File(s)

Not responsive as per agreement with requester

